

## Abstract

Lipid-protein-sugar particles (LPSPs) are provided as a vehicle for the delivery of nucleic acids. Any polynucleotide (*e.g.*, DNA, RNA) may be encapsulated in a lipid-protein-sugar matrix to form microparticles. Preferably the diameter of the LPSP ranges from 50 nm to 10  
5 micrometers. The particles may be prepared using any known lipid (*e.g.*, DPPC), protein (*e.g.*, albumin), or sugar (*e.g.*, lactose). Methods of preparing the particles and administering the particles for gene therapy are also provided. Preferably the methods of preparing the LPSPs do not significantly damage the polynucleotide to be delivered.

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